We claim:

- 1. A heat exchanger which is symmetrical with respect to rotation and is heated by a heat transfer medium, the heat exchanger comprising a thermal roller driveable for rotation having forward flow means and return flow means for the heat transfer medium, and at least one shut-off device for shutting off at least one of the forward flow means and rearward flow means when a forward flow pressure and/or rearward flow pressure of the heat transfer medium drops significantly or drops to zero.
 - 2. The heat exchanger according to claim 1, comprising a valve each in a forward flow duct and rearward flow duct of the heat transfer medium in a roller neck of the thermal roller, such that flow into the thermal roller and return flow from the heat exchanger can be shut off.
 - 3. The heat exchanger according to claim 2, wherein each valve is located fully or partially between the heat exchanger and a rotary lead-in connection for the heat transfer medium.

- 4. The heat exchanger according to claim 2, wherein the valves are check valves.
- 5. The heat exchanger according to claim 3, wherein the valves are configured to prevent heat transfer medium from leaking out after the rotary lead-in connection has been disassembled.